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CONTROLS

UNCLAS 1K

SERIAL: HK0401022191

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

COUNTRY: PRC

SUBJ: TAKE 1 OF 2--ARTICLE URGES DEVELOPMENT OF LIFE SCIENCE

SOURCE: BEIJING GUANGMING RIBAO IN CHINESE 10 DEC 90 P 3

TEXT:

(((ARTICLE BY XING BENSI (6717 6321 1835): "IMPORTANCE SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH OF LIFE SCIENCE"-- AUTHOR'S SPEECH AT THE FIRST NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON LIFE SCIENCE HELD IN BEIJING)))

((TEXT)) LIFE SCIENCE IS A NEW BRANCH OF LEARNING. THOUGH SOME SCHOLARS IN OUR COUNTRY HAVE STARTED RESEARCH AND EXPLORATION IN THIS RESPECT, GENERALLY SPEAKING THIS WORK HAS JUST BEEN UNDER WAY. THIS IS A FIELD THAT AWAITS FURTHER CULTIVATION AND, AT THE SAME TIME, IS ALSO ONE THAT IS FULL OF HOPE.

JUST AS THE NAME IMPLIES, LIFE SCIENCE STUDIES ISSUES RELATED TO LIFE. BUT LIFE'S ISSUES HAVE RICH INTENSIONS AND WIDE EXTENSIONS. AS MAN IS IMBUED WITH NATURAL AS WELL AS SOCIAL ATTRIBUTES, ISSUES RELATED TO LIFE INVOLVE NUMEROUS REALMS IN NATURAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES. IF THE SCOPE OF LIFE SCIENCE IS NOT DETERMINED, IT IS EASY TO OVERLAP INTO OTHER BRANCHES OF LEARNING. LIFE SCIENCE DOES NOT AND CANNOT STUDY ALL ISSUES RELATED TO LIFE. ITS MAIN OBJECT IS TO STUDY, FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF MAN'S RELATIONSHIP WITH SOCIETY, HOW A PERSON ESTABLISHES THE ORIENTATION OF HIS LIFE VALUES. IT INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS: MAN'S SOCIAL ATTRIBUTES, MAN'S RELATIONSHIP WITH SOCIETY, HOW TO ESTABLISH A PERSON'S OWN LIFE

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IDEAL AND ROAD; HOW TO SET UP THE CORRECT OUTLOOKS ON LIFE AND VALUES AND THE CRITERIA FOR THE CORRECT OUTLOOKS ON LIFE AND VALUES; HOW TO CHOOSE AND SET BOUNDS TO ONE'S BEHAVIOR IN SOCIAL LIFE; HOW TO UNIFY MAN'S SELF-VALUES AND SOCIAL VALUES, AND SO ON. ALTHOUGH CLOSELY RELATED TO ISSUES REGARDING OUTLOOK ON LIFE, LIFE SCIENCE IS NOT CONCERNED WITH THE GENERAL OUTLOOK ON LIFE; RATHER, IT EXPOUNDS IN TERMS OF LAW THOSE ISSUES RELATED TO LIFE. IT IS ALSO CLOSELY RELATED TO ETHICS, BUT IS NOT THE GENERAL MORAL SCIENCE; RATHER, IT EMPHASIZES THE STUDY OF ISSUES ON THE ORIENTATION OF LIFE VALUES. IT IS NOT ONLY A VALUE SYSTEM BUT ALSO A COGNITIVE SYSTEM, ANSWERING SUCH QUESTIONS AS WHAT LIFE IS AND WHAT LIFE SHOULD REALLY BE.

FROM THE OBJECTS OF LIFE SCIENCE, WE CAN SEE THAT THIS BRANCH OF LEARNING CARRIES IMPORTANT IMPLICATIONS REGARDING OUR COUNTRY'S SOCIAL PRACTICE AND, IN PARTICULAR, THE BUILDING OF OUR COUNTRY'S SOCIALIST SPIRITUAL CIVILIZATION.

WE ARE, AT PRESENT, ENGAGED IN THE BUILDING OF SOCIALISM WITH DISTINCT CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS. TO REALIZE THIS CAUSE, WE CANNOT DO WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE AND TALENTS. THIS MAKES IT NECESSARY TO HAVE A CONTINGENT OF BUILDERS WITH RELATIVELY HIGH QUALITIES. HOWEVER, HIGH QUALITIES ARE MANIFESTED IN THE POSSESSION OF NOT ONLY CERTAIN SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE AND LABOR SKILLS, BUT ALSO CORRECT IDEALS IN LIFE AND THE CORRECT ORIENTATION OF VALUES. ONLY THUS CAN THE SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE, AS WELL AS THE WISDOM, CREATIVITY, AND TALENTS OF BUILDERS BE BROUGHT INTO FULL PLAY. ONLY BY INTEGRATING A HIGH DEGREE OF SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE WITH A HIGH DEGREE OF SPIRIT OF DEDICATION SHALL WE BE ABLE TO TRULY BRING UP A VAST, EVER-VICTORIOUS, AND INVINCIBLE CONTINGENT OF BUILDERS TO CHARGE AND SHATTER ENEMY POSITIONS IN THE SOCIALIST MODERNIZATION DRIVE. THIS VAST CONTINGENT IS ONE OF THE KEYS TO THE SUCCESS OF BUILDING SOCIALISM. THE REASON WHY SOCIALIST SPIRITUAL CIVILIZATION IS SO IMPORTANT IS NOT ONLY BECAUSE OUR SOCIETY NEEDS A HEALTHY AND CIVILIZED HUMANE ENVIRONMENT TO FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE CAUSE OF CONTRUCTION AND REFORM, BUT ALSO BECAUSE IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE A HIGH DEGREE OF MATERIAL CIVILIZATION WITHOUT A HIGH DEGREE OF SPIRITUAL CIVILIZATION. NATURALLY, THE REVERSE IS ALSO TRUE. ACCORDINGLY, THE BUILDING OF THE TWO CIVILIZATIONS IS IN COMPLETE UNITY. SINCE THE ISSUES TO BE RESOLVED IN LIFE SCIENCE ARE THE ASPECTS OF IDEALS IN LIFE AND ORIENTATION OF LIFE VALUES, ITS OBJECTIVES ARE ENTIRELY CONSISTENT WITH THOSE OF SOCIALIST SPIRITUAL CIVILIZATION. IT CAN BE SAID THAT, TO RESOLVE THE PROFOUND ISSUES IN THE BUILDING OF SOCIALIST SPIRITUAL CIVILIZATION, IT IS NECESSARY TO STUDY LIFE SCIENCE, WHICH, IN TURN, CAN ALSO SERVE THE BUILDING OF SPIRITUAL CIVILIZATION.

SINCE OPENING UP TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD, WHILE INTRODUCING ADVANCED WESTERN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCES, WE HAVE ALSO INTRODUCED A LARGE BATCH OF WESTERN ACADEMIC WRITINGS. OF THESE, QUITE A LOT CARRY THE SIGNIFICANCE OF SERVING AS REFERENCE FOR US, BUT SOME HAVE PROPAGATED DECADENT WESTERN LEARNING AND CULTURE. THE EMERGENCE OF SUCH WRITINGS IN LARGE QUANTITIES HAS EXERTED A VERY BAD INFLUENCE ON THE BROAD MASSES IN OUR COUNTRY, PARTICULARLY YOUNG PEOPLE. THE HARM CAUSED BY THE BOURGEOIS

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OUTLOOK ON LIFE AND VALUES ADVOCATED IN THESE WRITINGS IS ESPECIALLY GREAT. SUCH AN OUTLOOK ON LIFE AND VALUES PLAYS UP SELF-CENTEREDNESS AND PLACES SELF, SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS, AND SELF-VALUE ABOVE EVERYTHING ELSE. NIETZSCHE'S "SELF-DETERMINATION" AND SARTRE'S "SELF-CHOICE" ARE EVEN DWELT UPON WITH GREAT RELISH BY SOME YOUNG PEOPLE. SUCH VIEWPOINTS TAKE AN INDIVIDUAL'S WILL, WISH, INTEREST, AND BEHAVIORAL CHOICE AS BEING PURELY WITHIN THE SCOPE OF PERSONAL FREEDOM, HOLDING THAT WHAT A PERSON CHOOSES IS HIS PERSONAL AFFAIRS AND THAT HE IS RESPONSIBLE TO HIMSELF ALONE FOR HIS CHOICE, IN WHICH OTHER PEOPLE, THE SOCIETY, AND PUBLIC OPINION ALL HAVE NO RIGHT TO INTERFERE. SUCH AN OUTLOOK ON LIFE AND VALUES CENTERING ON SELF WILL EASILY LEAD TO ANARCHY IN POLITICS AND AMORALITY ((FEI DAO DE ZHU YI 7236 6670 1795 0031 5030)) IN LIFE. THESE TENDENCIES HAVE SPROUTED ON THE CAMPUSES OF OUR COUNTRIES' UNIVERSITIES AND, IF ALLOWED TO SPREAD, WILL HAVE AN EXTREMELY SERIOUS, CORROSIVE EFFECT ON THE YOUNGER GENERATION. YOUNG PEOPLE ARE OUR FUTURE AND THE HOPES OF THE SOCIALIST CAUSE. TO ENABLE THEM TO GROW HEALTHILY IN AN ALL-AROUND WAY--MORALLY, INTELLECTUALLY, AND PHYSICALLY--WE SHOULD ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE NOT ONLY TO IMPARTING SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE TO THEM AND ENHANCING THEIR PHYSICAL QUALITIES, BUT ALSO TO CARRYING OUT EDUCATION IN LIFE IDEALS AND ORIENTATION OF LIFE VALUES.

/***** BEGINNING OF TAKE 002. *****/

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OF LIFE VALUES.

TEXT:

((TEXT)) ((PARAGRAPH CONTINUES)) WE SHOULD NOT ONLY CONDUCT POSITIVE EDUCATION, BUT ALSO CRITICIZE THE OUTLOOKS ON LIFE AND VALUES IN RESPECT OF PUTTING SELF FIRST AND CENTERING ON SELF, AS ADVOCATED IN WESTERN ACADEMIC WRITINGS, AND SWEEP AWAY THE THEORETICAL MIASMA SPREAD BY THEM. OPENING UP STUDIES IN LIFE SCIENCE WILL BE CONDUCIVE TO EDUCATING THE YOUNGER GENERATION IN IDEALS IN LIFE AND ORIENTATION OF LIFE VALUES.

THE PERFECTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF LIFE SCIENCE MUST BE GUIDED BY MARXISM AND, IN PARTICULAR, MARXIST PHILOSOPHY. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF IDEALS IN LIFE AND THE CORRECT ORIENTATION OF LIFE VALUES MUST BE BASED ON AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE LAW GOVERNING HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT. ONLY BY CLEARLY UNDERSTANDING THE OBJECTIVE INEVITABLE TREND OF HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT CAN WE CONSCIOUSLY CONFORM TO THIS TREND, IN ORDER NOT TO GO AGAINST THE HISTORICAL TREND OF THE TIMES IN OUR CHOICE OF THE ROAD OF LIFE. IN ADDITION, WHEN ESTABLISHING ONE'S IDEALS IN LIFE AND THE CORRECT ORIENTATION OF LIFE VALUES, IT IS ALSO NECESSARY TO THEORETICALLY RESOLVE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE SOCIETY. ONLY BY MAKING CLEAR THIS RELATIONSHIP CAN WE CORRECTLY APPROACH THE POSITION AND ROLE OF INDIVIDUALS IN SOCIAL LIFE AND MAKE OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD LIFE CONFORM TO THE INTERESTS OF THE GROUP AND SOCIETY. MARXIST PHILOSOPHY, PARTICULARLY HISTORICAL MATERIALISM, HAS NOT ONLY DISCLOSED THE OBJECTIVE LAW GOVERNING HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT, BUT ALSO EXPOUNDED THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE SOCIETY, THEREBY HELPING US RESOLVE, IN TERMS OF BASIC THEORIES, THE ISSUE OF HOW TO

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ESTABLISH OUR IDEALS IN LIFE AND ORIENTATION OF LIFE VALUES, AS WELL AS THE ISSUE OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S ATTITUDE IN SOCIAL LIFE. NATURALLY, THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT HISTORICAL MATERIALISM CAN TAKE THE PLACE OF LIFE SCIENCE. HISTORICAL MATERIALISM STUDIES GENERAL LAWS, WHEREAS LIFE SCIENCE STUDIES CONCRETE ONES. THE STUDY OF CONCRETE LAWS HAS TO BE GUIDED BY THE THEORY OF GENERAL LAWS, BUT CANNOT BE REPLACED BY THE LATTER. AS TO WHAT IS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CONCRETE LAWS EXPLORED BY LIFE SCIENCE, THIS AWAITS FURTHER STUDIES BY SPECIALISTS AND SCHOLARS OF THIS DISCIPLINE.

LIFE SCIENCE HAS A BROAD PROSPECT FOR DEVELOPMENT, THOUGH STILL IN ITS INITIAL STAGE AT PRESENT. IT HAS NOT YET MATURED AND ITS SYSTEM AND STRUCTURE HAVE NOT COMPLETELY TAKEN SHAPE. THEY ARE STILL TO BE JOINTLY EXPLORED BY SPECIALISTS AND SCHOLARS ACROSS THE NATION WHO HAVE THE ASPIRATION TO ENGAGE IN RESEARCH IN THIS FIELD. BECAUSE OF ITS CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH PHILOSOPHY, ETHICS, SOCIOLOGY, PEDAGOGY, AND PSYCHOLOGY IN THE HUMANITIES, IT IS ALSO HOPED THAT LIFE SCIENCE'S DEVELOPMENT CAN GAIN ASSISTANCE FROM SPECIALISTS AND SCHOLARS IN THESE DISCIPLINES. I BELIEVE THAT, WITH THE CONCERTED EFFORTS OF SPECIALISTS AND SCHOLARS OF THIS AND OTHER RELATED DISCIPLINES, LIFE SCIENCE CAN ACHIEVE HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT AND GRADUAL PERFECTION.

ADMIN

(ENDALL) AR150401.02E 10 DEC DS/LH/REED/FC 04/0237Z JAN

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